Claims

1. A hanger comprising:

a first hook portion extending above a central body portion;

first and second arms, each extending laterally outward from the central body portion to a respective first and second distal end;

a first locking bar having a first end secured distally along the first arm and extending inward towards the central body portion beneath the first arm to a second end;

a first support bar having a third end secured distally along the first arm and extending inward towards the central body portion beneath the first locking bar to a fourth end; and

a second support bar having a fifth end secured distally along the second arm and extending inward towards the central body portion beneath the second arm to a sixth end.

2. The hanger according to claim 1, further comprising a second locking bar having a seventh end secured

distally along the second arm and extending inward towards the central body portion beneath the second arm and above the second support bar to an eighth end.

3. The hanger according to claim 1, wherein the second end of the first locking bar extends further inward towards the central body portion than the fourth end of the first support bar.

4. The hanger according to claim 1, wherein one of the fourth end of the first support bar and the sixth end of the second support bar is secured to the hanger.

5. The hanger according to claim 1, wherein a lower surface of the first locking bar and an upper surface of the first support bar are provided with complementary profiles.

6. The hanger according to claim 1, wherein the width of the first locking bar narrows from the first end to the second end.

7. The hanger according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second arms is swept downward.

8. The hanger according to claim 1, wherein the first locking bar is swept upward, whereby the second end is above the first end.

9. The hanger according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second support bars is swept upward, whereby the fourth or sixth end is above the third or fifth end, respectively.

10. The hanger according to claim 1, further comprising an inclined edge rising above one of the first and second arms along a side of the central body portion.

11. The hanger according to claim 1, further comprising a recess formed in a top surface of one of the first and second arms.

12. The hanger according to claim 1, further comprising a flange along the top surface of one of the first and second arms.

13. The hanger according to claim 12, wherein the flange has a greater width in the region of the first or second distal end then in the region of the central body portion.

14. The hanger according to claim 1, further comprising a second hook extending beneath the first or second arm.

15. The hangar according to claim 1, further comprising an injection molded plastic material.

16. The hangar according to claim 1, wherein the second end of the first locking bar extends at least to the sixth end of the second support bar and above the second support bar.

17. A hanger comprising:

a first hook portion extending above a central body portion;

first and second arms, each extending laterally outward from the central body portion to a respective first and second distal end;

a first locking bar having a first end secured along the first arm and extending inward toward the central body portion and beneath the first arm to a second end; and

a first support bar having a third end secured along the second arm and extending inward towards the

central body portion at least to the first end of the first locking bar and beneath the first locking bar to a fourth end.

18. The hanger according to claim 17, wherein the locking bar is dimensioned to deflect to interface the supporting bar under a predetermined minimum force.

19. The hanger according to claim 17, wherein the supporting bar and locking bar are dimensioned to support together a predetermined maximum force.

20. The hanger according to claim 17, wherein a lower surface of the locking bar and an upper surface of the first support bar are provided with complementary profiles.

21. A hanger comprising:

a first hook portion extending above a central body portion;

a first arm extending laterally outward from the central body portion to a first distal end;

a first locking bar having a first fixed end secured along the first arm and extending inward beyond a

midpoint of the hanger and beneath the first arm to a first free end; and

a first support bar having a second fixed end secured along the first arm and extending inward beyond a midpoint of the hanger and beneath the first locking bar to a second free end.

22. The hanger according to claim 21 wherein the locking bar is dimensioned to deflect to interface the supporting bar under a predetermined minimum force.

23. The hanger according to claim 21, wherein the supporting bar and locking bar are dimensioned to support together a predetermined maximum force.

24. The hanger according to claim 21, wherein a lower surface of the locking bar and an upper surface of the first support bar are provided with complementary profiles.

25. A hanger comprising:

a first hook portion extending above a central body portion;

first and second arms, each extending laterally outward from the central body portion to respective first and second distal ends; and

a first locking bar having a first end secured to the hanger and extending adjacent the first arm to a second end, wherein the first locking bar is dimensioned to deflect to interface a support under a predetermined minimum force.

26. The hanger according to claim 25, further comprising a second locking bar having a third end secured to the hanger and extending adjacent the second arm to a fourth end, wherein the second locking bar is dimensioned to deflect to interface a support under a predetermined minimum force.

27. The hanger according to claim 25, wherein the support comprises one of the first arm, and a first support bar having a fifth end secured to the hanger and extending adjacent the first locking bar to a sixth end.

28. The hanger according to claim 25, wherein the first locking bar is positioned above the first arm.

29. A method for hanging a flexible article, the method comprising:

(a) providing a hanger having at least a hook portion, a support beneath the hook portion and a flexible locking bar between the support and the hook portion;

(b) folding the flexible article over itself at least once;

(c) positioning one side of the folded article between the locking bar and the support;

(d) positioning another side of the folded article above the locking bar; and

(e) allowing the weight of the article to deflect the locking bar into engagement with the support, thereby securing the side of the folded article located therebetween.

30. The method for hanging a flexible article according to claim 29, further comprising suspending the hanger from a support by the hook portion.

31. The method for hanging a flexible article according to claim 29, wherein a lower surface of the locking

bar and an upper surface of the support are provided with complementary profiles.